



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY  
EDGAR SNOWDEN.  
FRIDAY EVENING JULY 26, 1878.

The outlook, at present, it must be acknowledged, is not encouraging for a harmonious session of the Congressional convention, which will assemble in this city on the 28th of August next. The fact cannot and should not be denied that there exists throughout the district wide spread dissension, and that the opposition to the re-nomination of Gen. Hutton has assumed such proportions, and the feeling between the friends of the candidates has become so intensified, that it is very questionable, if any programme that may be laid down, or attempted to be carried out in reference to the admission of contested delegations and the proceedings of the convention, will not result in a "split" and "bolt," leading to the naming of two candidates or a refusal on the part of those who may wish to draw to support the nominee of the disrupted convention, thus permitting the "independent" candidate, whoever he may be, to be elected. These indications, we trust, may not be verified, yet we feel compelled to give them, trusting that to forewarn is to forewarn; that wiser and more prudent counsels than at present appear to be directing the course of the contest may prevail, and that before the assembling of the convention the sentiment of the district may be so pronounced as to quiet all apprehensions and obviate any disturbance in its deliberations. It would be a sad day indeed, and one ever to be regretted, should the embittered feelings, now prevailing, be carried into the convention and there eventuate in a rupture that would result in the election of an "independent." How the radicals, not only of the district and State, but throughout the country, would gloat over the spectacle, and rejoice at the temporary discomfiture of true conservatism? What encouragement it would give to the oppressors of the South, who are only waiting an opportunity to again impose upon us the horrors from which we have but so recently escaped? Let these things be considered; let personal considerations be set aside; let vindictiveness be frowned upon; give each and every candidate a fair and impartial consideration, and when the convention meets let it be remembered that there is a common foe to contend with; that principles as well as men are to be taken into consideration, and that he who is most able to bear the conservative banner through the fight should be the chosen leader, and that all who rally to his support. Deprecating anything that will tend to disrupt the party, and willing to make any and all sacrifices for its welfare, let everything that may lead to dissension be discouraged, and all things that will encourage union and harmony be fostered to the utmost.

Mr. Thomas Kelso, a wealthy and highly influential citizen of Baltimore, died this morning in his 94th year. He was noted for his many acts of charity, among which was the founding of the Kelso Orphan's Home at a cost of \$120,000. He was a director in the P. W. & B. Railroad, president of the Equitable Life Insurance Company, and vice president and director of the First National Bank of Baltimore.

The speech of Linden Kent, esq., of this city, at Madison Court House, yesterday, in reply to Gen. Hutton, and in advocacy of the claims of Mr. Neale, is said by those who heard it, to have been a very fine effort, and to have been highly commended by all present.

A Washington paper is anxious to learn the name of a single citizen of this District who ever asked General Hutton or other "friends of this District" to vote for the assessment in favor of the State.

Mrs. Harriet Morris, widow of Commodore Charles Morris, and mother in law of W. Corcoran, esq., died at her home on H street, in Washington, on Tuesday last, in the 57th year of her age.

Judge Harris' "position" upon the State debt question, published in yesterday's Gazette, is talliaradish, not to say pickwickian. The Lynchburg News thinks that no man in a tight place could beat it.

Dispatches from New York report the outlook for the Autumn trade as promising. So mote it be!

Gen. Fitz Lee is unalterably opposed to any feasible re-adjustment of the State debt. Gen. Hutton is reported as favoring a re-adjustment.

The Eighth Congressional District. There was a political discussion at Madison Court House, yesterday, participated in by Gen. Hutton and Messrs. J. Y. McNeefe, Linden Kent, who represented Mr. Neale, and B. J. Barbour. After the speaking a meeting of the county conservative committee ordered an election to be held in the various districts to choose delegates to the Congressional convention, to be held in this city on the 28th, on the 10th of August. It is contended by the friends of Mr. Neale that he will carry the county, while Gen. Hutton's friends claim one district in the county.

Fatal Affray. CINCINNATI O., July 26.—Yesterday afternoon Andrew Cropper and James Doyle, employed on the steamer Laura L. Davis, became involved in a dispute about a trifling matter when Cropper seized a piece of board and struck Doyle on the head with such force that he died shortly afterwards. Cropper escaped.

Boat Race. ST. JOHN'S, N. B., July 26.—The wind has been blowing strongly from the southwest all the morning, and the water is very rough. There are occasional rain showers and every appearance of a heavy storm coming. It is not likely the race will come off to-day.

The Turkish army is being reduced.

### The Presidential Fraud.

At Atlantic City, yesterday, Secretary Sherman presented to the Potter committee the following correspondence:

STATE OF LOUISIANA, EXECUTIVE DEPT., NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 23, 1876.

My Dear Sir: I have not written you sooner, for the progress of our visitation will be known to you through papers sooner than from my letters, and the telegraph office here is more public than a sheriff's sale. We sometimes hear of private telegrams before they are delivered. The action of the returning board has thus far been open and fair, and only confirms the general result known before. We are now approaching the contested parishes. To five of them, viz. Baton Rouge, East and West Feliciana, Morehouse and Ouachita, the evidence of intimidation is so well made out on paper that no man can doubt as to the just exclusion of their vote. In these parishes alone we ought to have a majority of 7,000, but under the law the entire returns must be excluded of all election districts where intimidation has affected or changed the result. It is this due result will give the Hayes electors a majority in the aggregate of 24,111 and the Tilden electors 22,633. But in almost every parish the official returns vary somewhat from the stated majorities, and thus far slightly reduce the republican majority. The vote of each disputed parish has thus far been laid aside, and among them are two parishes where a most foolish blunder, or something worse, was made in omitting from the republican tickets the names of all the electors but the two Senatorial and one district electors. The democrats claim this will lose us over 2,000 votes; but our friends, whose information we have generally found confirmed, say it will lose us, at the most, 1,193 votes. The law seems conclusive that the defective ballots cannot be counted for any class of those named on the ticket, though it is consistently shown that the remaining electors were omitted by reason of the mistaken idea that the district could only vote for one elector. The whole trouble has grown out of the fact that in these two parishes a candidate for district judge was not named on the tickets printed by the State committee. We undertook to correct this by printing new tickets, which were voted in these parishes. The result of this blunder will leave the polls so close as to render it probable that one or more of the Tilden electors would have a majority. There are other parishes where the organized intimidation was so general as in the parishes named, though in a single election precinct it was effective. These parishes where formal protests have been filed are Bienville, Bossier, Caldwell, Franklin, Grant, Iberia, Lincoln, Richland and Sabine. How far the proof in these parishes will sustain the protests we cannot judge until the evidence is heard before the returning board. We are now collecting the testimony as to the balloting parishes. It seems much like the history of hell than of civilized and Christian communities. The means adopted are almost incredible, but were fearfully effective upon an ignorant and superstitious people. That you would have received at a fair election a large majority in Louisiana no honest man can question. That you did not receive a majority is equally clear. But that intimidation of the very kind and nature provided against by the Louisiana law did enter into and control the election in more election polls than would change the result and give the republicans the vote I believe as firmly as that I write this. The difficulty of getting this testimony and putting it in legal form has been very great; but I believe it has been fully met. The whole case rests upon the action of the returning board. I have carefully observed them and have formed a high opinion of Governor Wells and Colonel Anderson. They are firm, judicious, and as far as I can judge, thoroughly honest and conscientious. They are personally familiar with the nature and degree of intimidation in Louisiana. They can see that the intimidation as organized was with a view of throwing out republican parishes rather than endangering democratic parishes. Our little party are now dividing out the disputed parishes, with the view of a careful examination of every paper and detail. Many are impatient of the delay and some have gone home. We will probably be able to keep about ten here. We have incurred some liabilities for reporting, printing, &c., but hope the Republican National Committee will make this good. If we do not must provide it for ourselves. We are in good hope and spirit, not wishing the return in your favor unless it is clear that it ought to be so, and not willing to be cheated out of it, or to be "bulldozed," or intimidated. The truth is palpable that your ought to have the vote of Louisiana, and we believe that you will have it by an honest and fair return according to the letter and spirit of the law of Louisiana. Very truly yours,

JOHN SHERMAN.

To this General Hayes responded as follows:

COLUMBUS, OHIO, Nov. 27, 1876.

My Dear Sir: I am greatly obliged for your letter of the 23d. You feel I am sure, as I do, about this whole business. A fair election would have given us about forty electoral votes at the South—at least that many. But we are not to allow our friends to defeat one outrage and fraud by another. There must be nothing crooked on our part. Let Mr. Tilden have the place by violence, intimidation, and fraud rather than undertake to prevent it by means that will not bear the severest scrutiny. I appreciate the work done by the republicans who have gone South, and am especially proud of the acknowledged honorable conduct of those from Ohio. The democrats made a mistake in sending so many ex-republicans. New converts are proverbially bitter and unfair toward those they have recently left.

I trust you will soon reach the end of the work, and be able to return in health and safety. Sincerely,

R. B. HAYES.

In the course of the examination Secretary Sherman said he would not hesitate to appoint any man because he did his duty.

Gen. Butler—I think Sauer was appointed on the recommendation of Senator Kellogg. Did not the appointment come down to you from the President, instead of going up from you to him?

The Secretary replied: The papers will show that you trench on delicate ground; I ought not to tell you what the President said to me, or what I said to the President.

Gen. Butler—I don't ask you for Cabinet secrets. But I have come to the conclusion that there ought to be no secrets in a free government.

The Secretary: I will give you the exact facts when we reach Washington.

Gen. Butler—But the papers will not help the case, nor answer my question. Was not Parker removed as postmaster at New Orleans and Badger appointed in his place on the same day that Sauer was appointed? Was there any consideration about it?

The Secretary declined to answer, when Gen Butler said: I want to prove that nothing was said in the Cabinet about it.

Secretary Sherman then left the committee room.

General Garfield was examined and during his testimony

Gen. Butler asked—Have you any doubts that the State was carried for Hayes, it was also carried for Packard? A—I think Packard was honestly elected, but the final outcome was for Nichols.

Gen. Butler—Although the Legislature declared for Packard, and put him on as Governor until the struggle which put him out? A—I do not so understand it.

Q—Do you not understand that a majority of the duly elected members of the Legislature declared for Packard as Governor and inaugurated him on the 1st of January? A—But

I understood that was a promise case, but the trial on its merits was subsequent.

Q—Did the returning board make a new set of returns? A—In the case of presidential electors the determination of the returning board is final, while as to Governor the Legislature can reverse the finding.

Q—Do you not understand that the Legislature did make a declaration that Packard was elected Governor and inaugurated him, and that he remained Governor until he was ousted by another power? This same Legislature elected Kellogg as Senator, and the United States Senate recognized him as legally elected. A—But I do not understand that the party opposed to Packard lost the power to contest.

Q—After a man has been declared elected by the returning board and been inaugurated as Governor, do you understand that the Legislature can turn him out? Do you understand that can be done? A—That depends on the statute. I know that it can be done in case of a contest.

Q—Do you know of such a contest in that Legislature? A—I am not particularly familiar with the proceedings.

Q—Did not the Legislature and Governor Packard maintain themselves for three months? A—They maintained about eight acres of Louisiana.

Q—I am asking for time and you give me acres. A—I think about three months.

Q—Did they not maintain themselves until the McVeigh commission was sent down? A—They were maintained by troops.

Q—Do you know any act of the troops or of an order to maintain the Legislature? A—All this is current history. It is as notorious as the fact that the remaining electors were omitted by reason of the mistaken idea that the district could only vote for one elector.

General Butler—Every time I get this matter to a point my brother on the left of us. He was patient, however, to day while Secretary Sherman was making irrelevant remarks.

Mr. Hiseock—All I can say is this: if the gentleman considered the remarks improper he could have objected to them.

Chairman Potter—I will leave the decision of this question to my colleague, (Mr. Spricker) as all the other members of the committee have expressed their views.

Mr. Spricker—General Butler has indicated the line of investigation, and preface the case by stating he proposed to show a bareback by which Hayes was to be elected as President, and he, in turn for such service, was to overthrow Packard as Governor and recognize Nichols.

The question now put to the witness relates to the overthrow of the Packard government by the withdrawal of the troops and leaving Packard to his fate. The question, therefore, is pertinent as a part of the general conspiracy proposed to be proved. Besides this question was adjudicated at a former session of the committee, and it would be manifestly unjust to reverse it. For this reason he would vote to allow this question to be asked.

Chairman Potter—I have not been in favor of this line of inquiry. For myself I must say that I think the people of Louisiana, along with Nichols, were justified after the actions of the returning board in making the best arrangements they could to secure the State government; but however that may be, after the length to which branch of the inquiry has been carried, I do not know that I ought now to stop it. I have the power, but as the committee is divided I have not the wish, and therefore the question may be answered.

Gen. Butler—I recognize the right of Nichols to make a bargain in his place as much as Sir Henry Home had to bribe Arnold, but is it Arnold I am after.

Mr. Hiseock—I must object to such insinuations in the line of charges without evidence to support them.

The question was then asked, namely, "Do you know of any act of the troops or any order to the troops to maintain the Packard government?" A—I have no knowledge except current history open to all.

Q—What current history? A—I understood that there was a contest between the Nichols and Packard people, and the troops were called out to prevent a conflict between the partisans of the respective governments and to prevent bloodshed and to preserve the status quo.

Q—You said you believed Packard to have been honestly elected; do you know of any better purpose to which the troops should have been applied than in maintaining him? A—I believe Packard was honestly and lawfully elected, but I never understood that the Legislature had declared for Packard in the final form beyond the right of contest. I do not understand that Packard had passed beyond the point where there was no lawful appeal.

Q—There was to be a lawful appeal before the State Supreme Court. The Legislature, composed of a majority of the members declared to be elected by the returning board, assembled on the day fixed by the law, counted the votes and declared on the same authority that returned the Hayes electors that Packard was elected Governor, and after being inaugurated he sent in his message. If a Legislature has a right to turn a Governor out, do you know of any reason why Congress has not the right to turn out a President? A—The jurisdiction is different; one State and the other national.

Mr. Butler—I propose to find the missing link in the chain of conspiracy.

The further examination of General Garfield was postponed till to-morrow morning.

Before the sub-committee of the Potter investigating committee at New Orleans yesterday Major E. A. Barker testified substantially that he resided in New Orleans since 1869; was there in 1876, left was sent by Governor Nichols to represent the interests of the Nichols State government; Nichols was informed that efforts were being made to misrepresent the condition of affairs in Louisiana to President Grant, who, it is alleged, was asked to interfere on behalf of the Packard government; Nichols was also informed that there was a determination to force on his Legislature the election of two United States Senators in the interest of the republican party, as the price of yielding up the State government; hence witness' mission to Washington; he was instructed verbally by Governor Nichols to ascertain the true state of affairs at Washington, and to keep him posted; he was also to represent to the President the state of affairs in Louisiana in the interests of the Nichols government; he was also instructed to confer and act with the managers and representatives of the National Democratic party in Washington; he also received written instructions to the same effect.

The dispatch of President Grant, dated January 14, to General Augur indicated the policy of the President, and stated that should there be any necessity for any recognition of either government it must be Packard's. Then said it would take a couple of days for him to give details, and as the committee were about leaving he would simply make references and give details subsequently.

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